

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Interagency Council on Homelessness



Notes from the Meeting of the Interagency Council of Homelessness (ICH)

Date and Time: April, 19 2011 2:00pm-3:30pm

Location: Central Union Mission, 1350 R Street NW Washington, DC 20009

Approximate Attendance:

Welcome and Introductions

Allen Y. Lew, City Administrator, called the meeting to order and ICH members introduced themselves, the meeting was then opened up for comments from the public.

Public Comment Period

- A meeting attendee mentioned to the group that a robust effort to establish affordable housing in the District is needed in order to end homelessness.
- Another attendee spoke on his concerns about the overall state of homelessness in the District, and that the Strategic Plan to End Homelessness has not remained a focus of the ICH.
- A female attendee spoke on her concerns regarding the duplication of services among homeless service providers.

Summary of the Pre Meeting Discussion

The premeeting focused on the prioritization of the DHS Homeless Services budget; the goal of the forum was to present the key line items of the DHS Homeless Services budget, and gain community feedback as to what items are seen as priorities. At the time that these notes were composed, the final prioritization data was not calculated.

ICH Committee Reports

Executive Committee-Scott McNeilly, Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless (WLCH)

- The Executive Committee is currently attempting to engage additional ICH member agencies in the ICH planning process.

Operations and Logistics Committee- Chapman Todd, Catholic Charities

- The Operations and Logistics Committee has focused on overseeing the events of the 2010-2011 Hypothermia season, in addition on May 3rd the committee will host the annual debriefing of the hypothermia season, where there will be a review of the strengths and weaknesses of the 2010-2011 Hypothermia/Winter Plan.

Shelter Capacity Subcommittee-Michael Ferrell, Coalition for the Homeless

- The Shelter Capacity Committee will begin the discussion and review the post hypothermia season capacity numbers .

Strategic Planning Committee- Kelly Sweeney-McShane, Community of Hope

- The Strategic Planning Committee hosted the HEARTH Workshop on March 30th at N Street Village; the workshop focused on the implications of the new HEARTH Act. Next Steps include:
 - Development of a subcommittee to review the HEARTH Act regulations.
 - Development of a Transitional Housing Subcommittee, which will is to look at the most efficient ways of utilizing Transitional Housing
- Information on the HEARTH baseline data and performance data can be found on the ICH website (www.ich.dc.gov).

Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Presentations

- Each ICH member agency presented on their FY12 Homeless Services budget; these presentations described all services that will be provided by each agency in FY 2012 that are available for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. To see each agencies specific presentations please visit the ICH website: www.ich.dc.gov.

Public Comment Period

- A meeting attendee inquired about the options that homeless persons that do not require substance abuse or mental health assistance have as they seek housing. In addition, this attendee spoke on the need for affordable housing in the District.
- Another attendee asked for the process for mentally challenged persons that are currently residing in shelters to get immediate assistance as needed.

